

**ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for damping an ultrasonic transducer suitable for time of flight ranging and level measurement systems. The ultrasonic transducer comprises a damping component which absorbs vibrations in the transducer to reduce the ringing effect. The damping component is subjected to plasma etching to produce a surface which readily bonds to component(s) of the transducer. According to one aspect, the damping component is formed from an inert elastomer, such as silicone rubber, and the transducer component is made of stainless steel.